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Agenda item 33

QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND RELATED MATTERS

Letter dated 19 October 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

With regard to the statement made by the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 14 October 1994 at the plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (see A/49/PV.32), I have the honour to state the following.

The allegations made by the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are totally groundless; his statement was nothing but a malicious exercise in anti-Japanese propaganda. While I do not wish to dignify the specific allegations and innuendos made in that statement with a rebuttal, I would like to make the following points.

As the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Yohei Kono, stated in his address to the General Assembly on 27 September 1994 (see A/49/PV.7), Japan is determined to conduct a proactive foreign policy that will enable it to contribute to the future well-being of humankind. It pursues this policy in the spirit of international cooperation and in keeping with the Constitution, which prohibits the use of force as a means of resolving international conflicts. Furthermore, remorseful of the suffering brought about by the Second World War on its neighbouring countries, Japan has pronounced on many occasions its determination to see that such a tragedy is never repeated.

Japan is committed to forging relations with the countries in Asia and the Pacific based on mutual trust and confidence. The cynical attempt by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to jeopardize those relations is utterly futile; it will not succeed.

Moreover, Japan cannot but point out that such an attitude on the part of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is detrimental to efforts to build constructive relations between our two countries.

Finally, Japan calls upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to participate more positively in the deliberations of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 33.

(Signed) Shunji MARUYAMA
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative
of Japan to the United Nations

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 142
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL
TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 19 October 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to draw your attention to the act of terrorism which was perpetrated today in Israel by Palestinian terrorists. Initial reports have revealed the following:

(1) At 8.55 a.m. local time, a bomb exploded on a commuter bus travelling in rush hour traffic near Dizengoff Square in the heart of Tel Aviv. The bomb, which weighed approximately 10 kilograms, killed 22 people and injured 48. Three of the wounded are listed in critical condition;

(2) The bus, Dan Liens No. 5, was completely destroyed, and an adjacent bus was severely damaged. The majority of the injured were passengers on the first bus. Passengers on the other, as well as innocent bystanders, also numbered among those wounded in the attack;

(3) The Palestinian terrorist organization Hamas claimed responsibility for this attack and has threatened to carry out more terrorist acts of this kind.

The murderous forces responsible for this attack seek to undermine the peace process, and act in contravention of all human values and international norms.

In the past two weeks, Hamas has also been responsible for the terrorist attack in Jerusalem in which two people were killed and 13 wounded (A/49/498-S/1994/1150), and for the abduction and murder of Israel Defence Forces Corporal Nachshon Waxman (A/49/510-S/1994/1158).

Today's attack occurred following the historic initialling of a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan, and at a time when serious efforts are being made to advance negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Inspired by a radical, fundamentalist ideology, Hamas has repeatedly declared its commitment to oppose the peace process by violent means, and to carry out acts of terrorism directed against Israel and Israelis.

Israel will not allow this act of violence to weaken its commitment to the peace process.

We call upon the parties in the Middle East which support the peace process, as well as the rest of the international community, to strongly condemn this attack and to join in confronting the terrorist threat.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 142, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gad YAACOBI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations